Laying of Wardha-Yavatmal-Nanded broad gauge line

2106. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) as he had approved and announced during the Budget Session about laying of Wardha-Yavatmal-Nanded broad gauge line, by when the laying of rails would commence and what is the time-schedule for its completion; and

(b) as this broad gauge line would cater to passenger, goods and movement of coal traffic, whether these factors would be kept in view to determine adequacy of stations to give further fillip for fuller utilization of this long-awaited facility?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) As per budget announcement, action on this project will be taken after the receipt of approval from Government of Maharashtra on the cost sharing of the project. State Government was requested to share at least 40% of cost as a special case in view of difficult conditions amongst farming community in Vidharbha region. State Government has consented for meeting the cost of earthwork and ballast which less than 40%. Since the offer of State Government is much less than 40%, they have been asked to share at least 40% cost of the proposed line.

(b) Does not arise.

Medical facility in trains

†2107. SHRI BANWARI LAL KANCHHAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that even after the independence there is no medical facility in the trains and in the name of medical facility only a first aid-box is kept with the guard;

(b) the arrangements available for such passengers who suffer a heart attack, brain haemorrhage and sudden delivery in the train;

(c) whether Government would contemplate to add an additional coach which would be equipped with medical facilities for immediate treatment of these diseases in VIP and long distance trains; and

(d) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHR R.VELU): (a) to (d) All Passenger carrying trains are provided with First Aid Boxes containing essential drugs and dressing materials and the First Aid Boxes are available with the Guards of all the trains. In addition Augmented First Aid Boxes, with wider range of medicines, disposable medical material, etc., have been provided with the Train Superintendents/Pantry Car Managers of Rajdhani/ Shatabdi Express Trains and in nominated long distance Mail/Express trains. Services of doctors, travelling as passengers, are also utilized to attend to passengers who are in need of urgent medical assistance. The front line staff *viz.* Train Superintendents, Train Conductors, Travelling Ticket Examiners, etc. are also

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

trained in rendering first aid. Trains can also be stopped immediately at any station for treatment in dire emergency. Station Masters have details of doctors, clinics and hospitals, both Government and Private, in the vicinity of the station, so that their services could also be requisitioned, in emergencies. In addition, a database has also been developed regarding availability of the non-railway medical facilities along railway tracks and at stations en-route, for providing emergency medical care to sick travelling passengers in the Trains.

While every efforts is made to provide emergency first aid to such persons, it may be appreciated that it is physically not possible to provide advance resuscitation measures, specialized medical equipment in running trains. Such equipment can not obviously be used in a running train by one General Duty doctor/non-specialised doctor. Only recourse would be to de-train the patient at a suitable station from where the ground medical team can take over. There is no proposal to add an additional coach equipped with medical facilities for immediate treatment, in VIP and long distance trains.

Miserable condition of platforms and railway coaches

†2108. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi State Consumer Dispute Redressal Commission has urged him to improve the miserable condition of platforms and railway coaches;

(b) if so, whether Government have made any arrangements to check the condition of coaches being used in the various trains, their cleanliness and inspection of cleanliness etc. of platforms; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir. In one case of Union of India *Vs* Z.U. Siddiqui and others, the State Commission, Delhi invited the attention towards condition of platforms, coaches, sanitary condition, to provide benches to passengers to sit while waiting for the train etc.

(b) and (c) Regular inspections are made for cleanliness of platforms. In order to ensure proper cleanliness of platforms, round the clock inspection are made. Medical Officers also conduct inspections regularly. The platforms/stations are also inspected by Chief Medical Superintendents, Divisional Railway Managers and other railway officers. Railways have a well established system of maintenance and cleanliness of coaches. Upgraded materials have now been specified to improve the ambience inside the coaches. There are now being adopted in new manufacture and maintenance of coaches. For improving cleanliness of trains, Indian Railways are progressively adopting mechanized cleaning of coaches/trains in the coaching maintenance depots through professional agencies. Mechanised enroute cleaning of nominated trains is also carried out during their stoppage at "Clean Train

†inal notice of the question was received in Hindi.